

SENATOR CROSBY: For all those entities, and I will agree with Senator Chambers, probably they sent more money down here, but at any rate, just look at your numbers. Thank you, Madam President, for that extra twenty or whatever.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Crosby. Senator Warner.

SENATOR WARNER: Madam President, I rise to support the rule suspension and I just have a couple of thoughts. Several people have said this several times, but...and I know it is not very dramatic, and it doesn't get anybody excited. The simple facts are, however, you know within, if a couple of things that are going to happen, if they do happen, you know we are within \$700,000 of a balanced budget which is exactly where our aim is to be. And the next thing, if you want to cut, I hear that word thrown around a lot, some...and I don't object to that because Congress does the same thing. They talk about cuts when it is increases, but all you have got to do is vote no on two, three, four A bills or two, three tax expenditure bills, and you can add several million dollars of cuts to those of you who are looking for cuts, and you have got a lot of opportunity to do this, so I don't see anything much to get excited about. I think the Legislature has done quite well. We're...I don't recall prior to the passage of general appropriation bill, at least in recent years, of ever being within \$700,000 of a balanced budget. Usually we were millions of dollars off, at that stage, knowing full well that by the end of the session it was all going to come together, and that will happen again now. It always has, always will, and we are running in good shape, and I think we've got lots of opportunity for those who want to make cuts in future obligations to do that over the next few days, and I hope you will be as vocal on those as you can be to help keep that number down. So let's suspend the rule and move this bill on and recognize that the Legislature, as a whole, and the Appropriations Committee, specifically, as far as I am concerned, has done a fine job, and I would like to think that was because they had good examples to follow in the past, but that's probably not the case. They probably brought order out of chaos, and in any event, let's move on to the stuff that we have to do.

PRESIDENT ROBAK: Thank you, Senator Warner. Senator Maurstad.

SENATOR MAURSTAD: I'd like to call the question.